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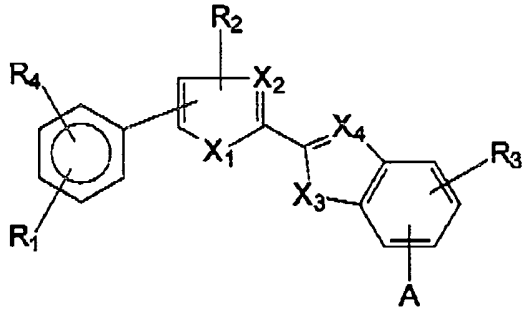
IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A compound according to Formula I:



(I)

wherein:

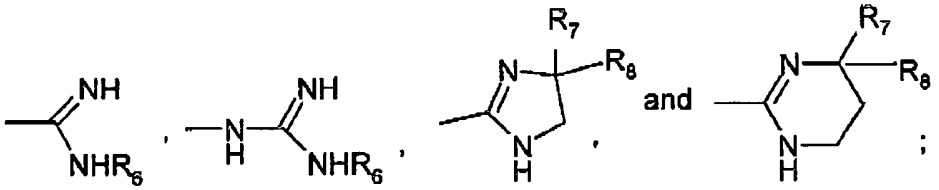
X_1 is O;

X_2 is CH;

X_3 is NR_9, wherein R_9 is H or alkyl;

X_4 is N;

A is selected from the group consisting of



R_1, R_2, R_3, and R_4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halide, alkylhalide, nitro and ~~amino groups~~ $NR_{10}R_{11}$, wherein R_{10} and R_{11} are independently selected from H and lower alkyl;

R_6 is H, alkyl or aryl; and

R_7 and R_8 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl.

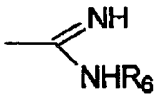
2. (Previously presented) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein:

X_3 is NH

and

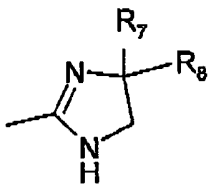
R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each H.

3. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein A is



and R_6 is alkyl.

4. (Previously presented) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein A is

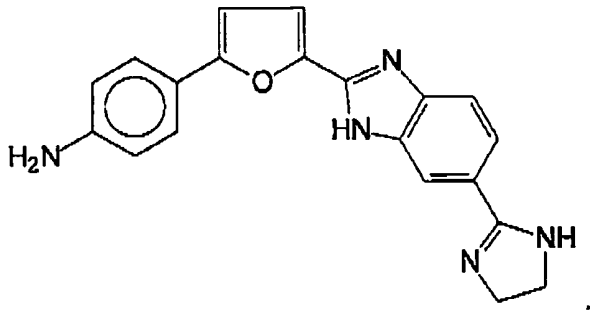


and R_7 and R_8 are each H.

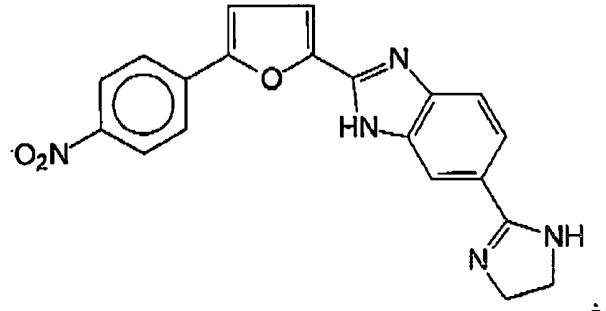
5. (Currently amended) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein R_1 is ~~an amine group~~ $-NR_{10}R_{11}$, wherein R_{10} and R_{11} are independently selected from H and lower alkyl.

6. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein R_1 is a nitro group.

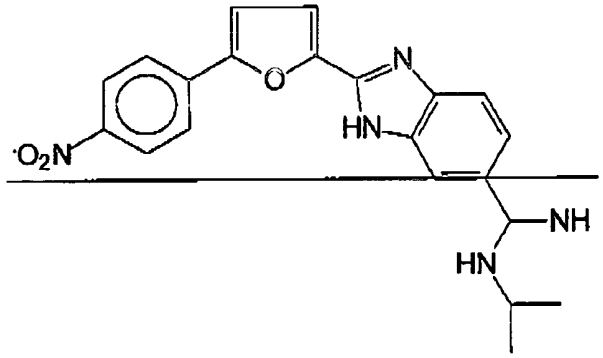
7. (Previously presented) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein the compound is represented by the formula:

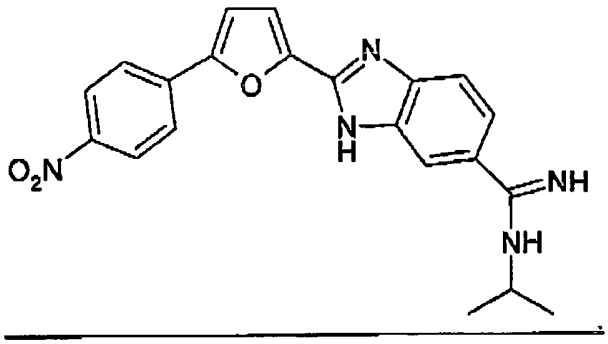


8. (Currently amended) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein the compound is represented by the formula:

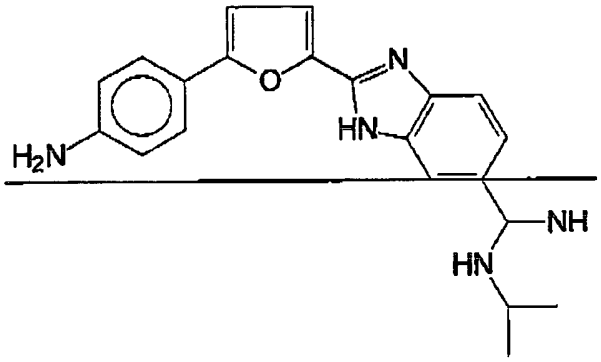


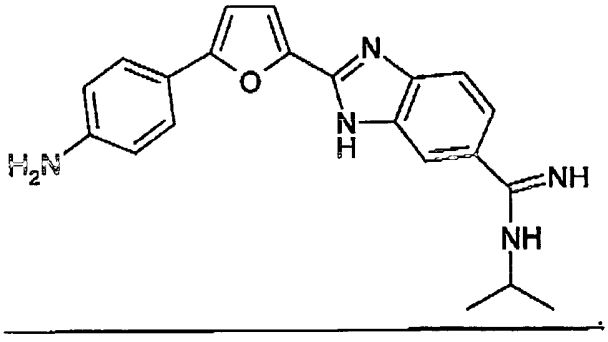
9. (Currently amended) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein the compound is represented by the formula:





10. (Currently amended) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein the compound is represented by the formula:





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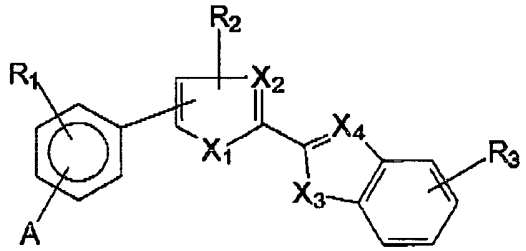
11. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 1, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

12. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 11, wherein the composition is formulated for intravenous administration.

13. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 11, wherein the composition is formulated for oral administration.

14. (Currently amended) A compound according to Formula II:



(II)

wherein:

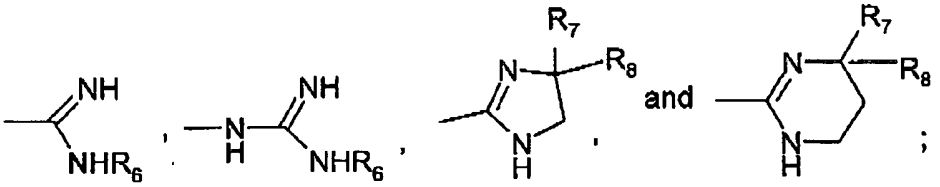
X_1 is O;

X_2 is CH;

X_3 is NR_9, wherein R_9 is H or alkyl;

X_4 is N;

A is selected from the group consisting of



and

;

R_1, R_2, and R_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halide, alkylhalide, nitro and ~~amino groups~~ $NR_{10}R_{11}$, wherein R_{10} and R_{11} are independently selected from H and lower alkyl;

R_6 is H, alkyl or aryl; and

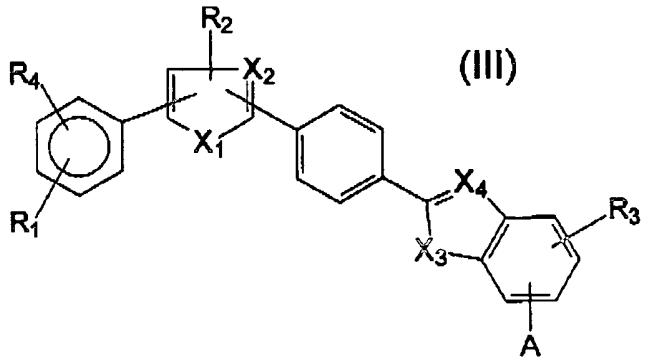
R_7 and R_8 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl.

15. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 14, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

16. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 15, wherein the composition is formulated for intravenous administration.

17. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 15, wherein the composition is formulated for oral administration.

18. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Formula III:



wherein:

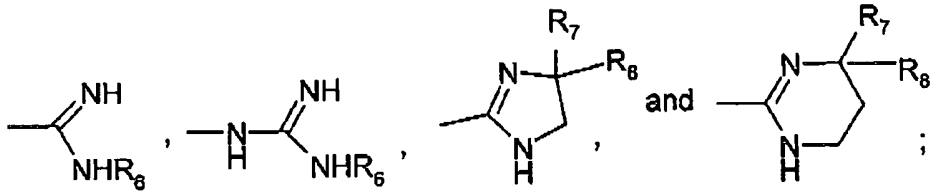
X_1 is O;

X_2 is CH;

X_3 is NR_9, wherein R_9 is H or alkyl;

X_4 is N;

A is selected from the group consisting of



R_1, R_2, R_3, and R_4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halo, amidine, nitro and ~~amino groups~~ $NR_{10}R_{11}$, wherein R_{10} and R_{11} are independently selected from H and lower alkyl;

R_6 is H, alkyl or aryl; and

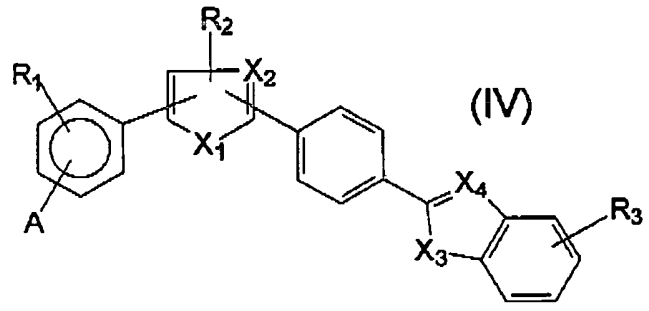
R_7 and R_8 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl.

19. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 18, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

20. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 19, wherein the composition is formulated for intravenous administration.

21. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 19, wherein the composition is formulated for oral administration.

22. (Currently amended) A compound according to Formula IV:



wherein:

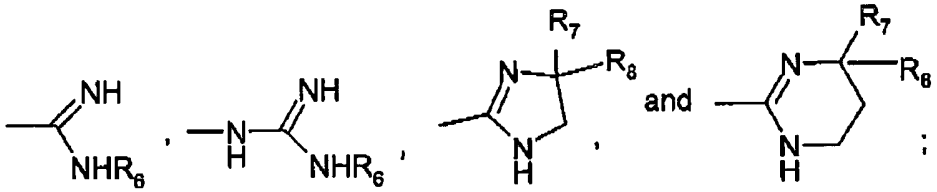
X_1 is O;

X_2 is CH;

X_3 is NR_9, wherein R_9 is H or alkyl;

X_4 is N;

A is selected from the group consisting of



R_1, R_2, and R_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halide, alkylhalide, amidine, nitro and ~~amino groups~~ $NR_{10}R_{11}$, wherein R_{10} and R_{11} are independently selected from H and lower alkyl;

R_6 is H, alkyl or aryl; and

R_7 and R_8 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl.

23. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 22, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

24. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 23, wherein the composition is formulated for intravenous administration.

25. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 23, wherein the composition is formulated for oral administration.

26-52. (Canceled)

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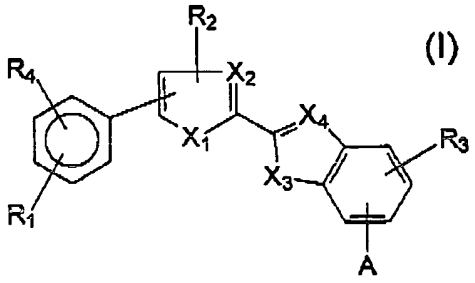
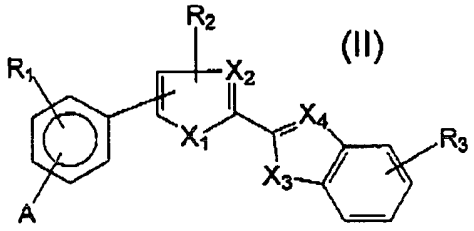
53. (Currently amended) A method of treating bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) infection in a subject in need of such treatment, comprising administering to the subject a compound selected from the group consisting of Formula I and Formula II:



(I)



(II)

wherein:

X_1 is O;

X_2 is CH;

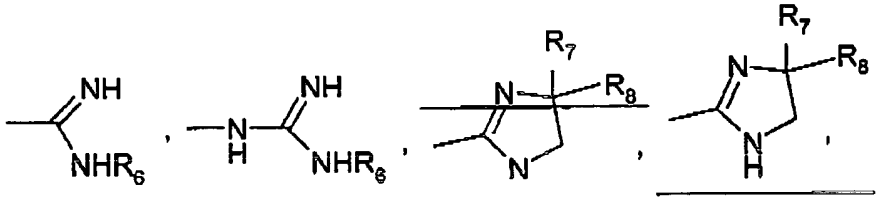
X_3 is NR_9, wherein R_9 is H or alkyl;

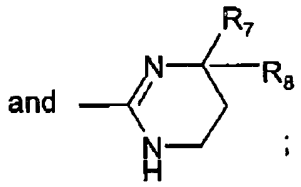
X_4 is N;

~~X_1 and X_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR_9, wherein R_9 is H or alkyl;~~

~~X_2 and X_4 are each independently CH or N;~~

A is selected from the group consisting of ~~H, alkyl, aryl,~~





;

R_1, R_2, R_3, and R_4 ~~and R_5~~ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halide, alkylhalide, ~~amidine,~~ nitro and ~~amino groups~~ $-NR_{10}R_{11}$, wherein R_{10} and R_{11} are independently selected from H and lower alkyl;

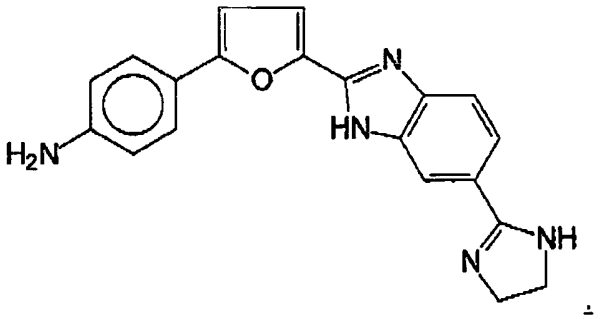
R_6 is H, alkyl or aryl; and

R_7 and R_8 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in an amount sufficient to treat the bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) infection.

54. (Original) The method according to Claim 53, wherein the compound is a compound of Formula I.

55. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 53, wherein the compound is represented by the formula:



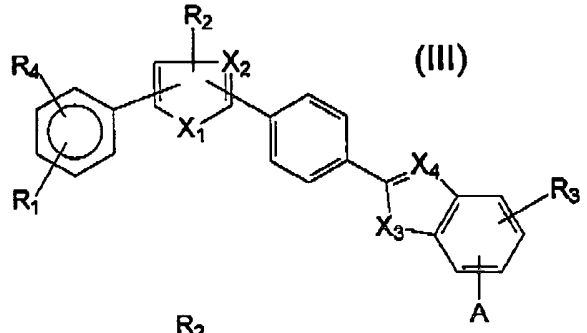
56. (Original) The method according to Claim 53, wherein the subject is a cow.

57. (Original) The method according to Claim 53, wherein the subject is an embryo.

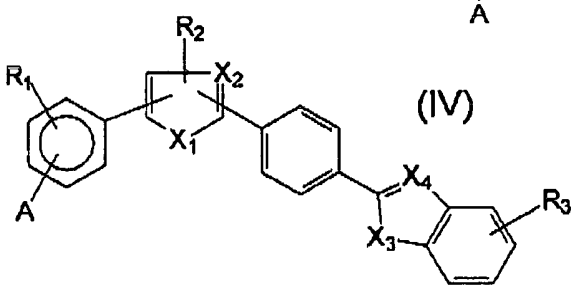
58. (Original) The method according to Claim 53, wherein the compound is administered intravenously.

59. (Original) The method according to Claim 53, wherein the compound is administered orally.

60. (Currently amended) A method of treating bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) infection in a subject in need of such treatment, comprising administering to the subject a compound selected from the group consisting of Formula III and Formula IV:



(III)



(IV)

wherein:

X_1 is O;

X_2 is CH;

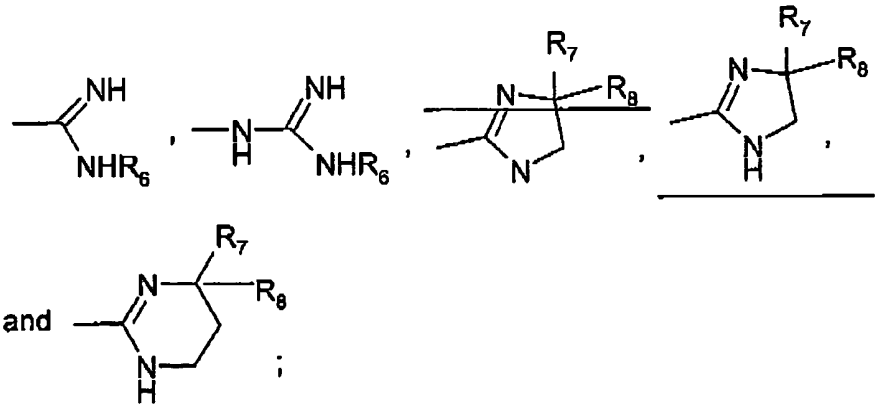
X_3 is NR_9, wherein R_9 is H or alkyl;

X_4 is N;

~~X_1 and X_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR_9, wherein R_9 is H or alkyl;~~

~~X_2 and X_4 are each independently CH or N;~~

A is selected from the group consisting of ~~H, alkyl, aryl,~~



and ;

R_1, R_2, R_3, and R_4 ~~and R_5~~ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halide, alkylhalide, amidine, nitro and ~~amino groups~~ $-NR_{10}R_{11}$, wherein R_{10} and R_{11} are independently selected from H and lower alkyl;

R_6 is H, alkyl or aryl; and

R_7 and R_8 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in an amount sufficient to treat the bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) infection.

61-77. (Canceled)

78. (Currently amended) A method of treating *Flaviviridae*-related hepatitis C infection in a subject in need of such treatment, comprising administering to the subject a compound selected from the group consisting of Formula I and Formula II:

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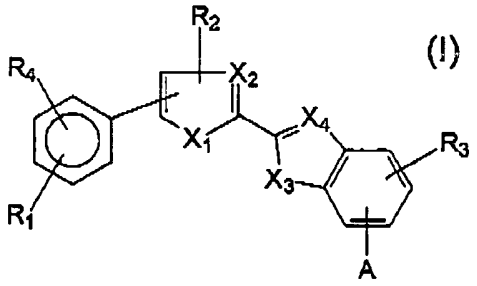
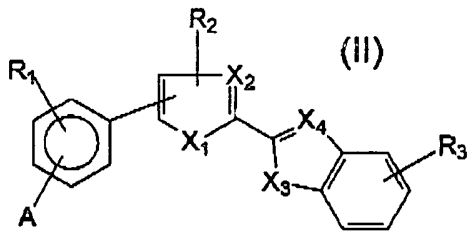

(I)


(II)

wherein:

X_1 is O;

X_2 is CH;

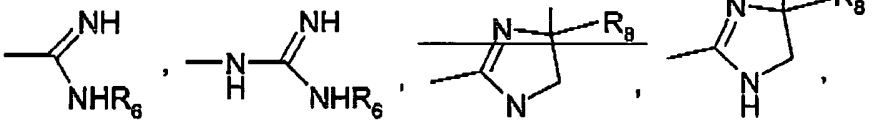
X_3 is NR_9, wherein R_9 is H or alkyl;

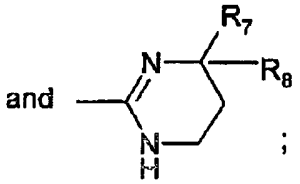
X_4 is N;

~~X_1 and X_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR_9, wherein R_9 is H or alkyl;~~

~~X_2 and X_4 are each independently CH or N;~~

A is selected from the group consisting of ~~H, alkyl, aryl,~~




and ;

R_1, R_2, R_3, and R_4 ~~and R_5~~ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halide, alkylhalide, ~~amidine,~~ nitro and ~~amino groups~~ $-NR_{10}R_{11}$, wherein R_{10} and R_{11} are independently selected from H and lower alkyl;

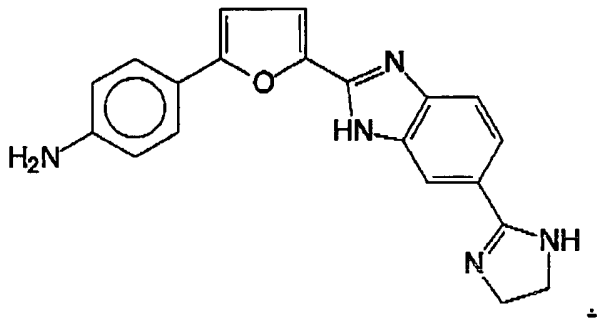
R_6 is H, alkyl or aryl; and

R_7 and R_8 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in an amount sufficient to treat the hepatitis C infection.

79. (Original) The method according to Claim 78, wherein the compound is a compound of Formula I.

80. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 78, wherein the compound is represented by the formula:



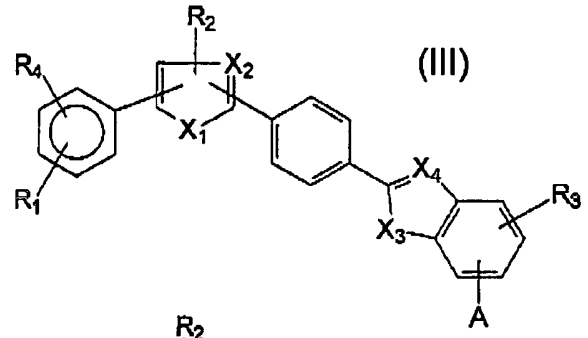
81. (Original) The method according to Claim 78, wherein the subject is a human.

82. (Original) The method according to Claim 78, wherein the compound is administered intravenously.

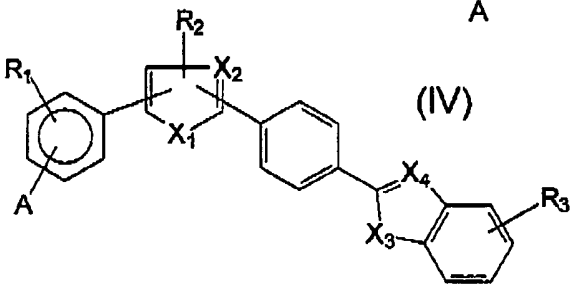
83. (Original) The method according to Claim 78, wherein the compound is administered orally.

84. (Currently amended) A method of treating *Flaviviridae*-related hepatitis C infection in a subject in need of such treatment, comprising administering to

the subject a compound selected from the group consisting of Formula III and Formula IV:



(III)



(IV)

wherein:

X_1 is O;

X_2 is CH;

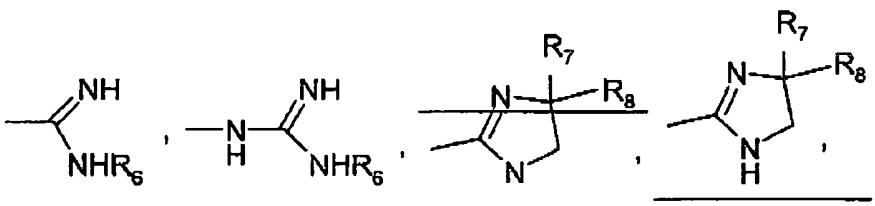
X_3 is NR_9, wherein R_9 is H or alkyl;

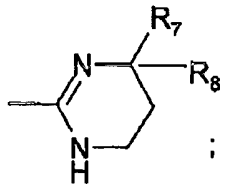
X_4 is N;

~~X_1 and X_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR_9, wherein R_9 is H or alkyl;~~

~~X_2 and X_4 are each independently CH or N;~~

A is selected from the group consisting of ~~H, alkyl, aryl,~~



and  ;

R_1, R_2, R_3, and R_4 ~~and R_5~~ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halide, alkylhalide, amidine, nitro and ~~amino groups~~ $-NR_{10}R_{11}$, wherein R_{10} and R_{11} are independently selected from H and lower alkyl;

R_6 is H, alkyl or aryl; and

R_7 and R_8 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in an amount sufficient to treat the hepatitis C infection.

85-113. (Canceled)